

The Present Status of Industrial Medicine. Sappington, C. O.: *J. Am. M. Ass.*, 135: 811, 1947.

Although American industry has made great progress, until today it occupies the top position among the nations in production and production methods, American industrial medicine has not achieved the same recognition and has no real place among other medical specialties. In this article the author gives a brief consideration of the present status of industrial medicine and calls attention to certain factors in the past which have led to its position. The critical attitude of other specialists and practitioners in general, together with the fact that in many instances industrial medicine has not been well understood, has retarded its growth. The remuneration offered to physicians in industry has been and is still, in many instances, insufficient to attract good men. Many of the leaders in industrial medicine have been motivated by idealism, not by money. Other factors retarding its maturity as a specialty, have been the slow recognition on the part of legislators of the importance of preventive principles, and the slow recognition on the part of medical schools, of the importance of providing undergraduate and postgraduate courses in industrial medicine.

It is the author's opinion that industrial medicine today needs an industrial relations survey within its own ranks, a good public relations program to inform industry continuously as to the nature and extent of health services which should be provided, and a psychosomatic diagnosis within its own domain, followed by appropriate advice and treatment. He feels that certain recent trends give promise of the significant rôle of industrial medicine in the future.

MARGARET H. WILTON

OBITUARIES

Dr. William A. Atkinson, of Edmonton, died recently in Florida. Born at Guthrie, Ont., he attended collegiate and model school at Barrie. After teaching for several years, he entered Toronto Medical College, from which he graduated in 1904.

Dr. J. F. V. Chester, aged 50, of Toronto, died of a heart attack May 16, at Hunstville, Ont. Dr. Chester had practised medicine in Toronto the past 23 years. Born in Port Sydney, he attended Jarvis Collegiate Institute. He graduated in medicine from the University of Toronto. During the first great war, he served as surgeon in the Royal Navy in the Mediterranean. He was attached to the staffs of St. Michael's and Toronto East General Hospitals. He was a member of Kingston Road United Church.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters, a brother and sister.

Dr. Vincent P. Doucet died at his home in Moncton, N.B., on May 13. He was 46 years of age.

Born in Richibucto in 1902, he received his early education there and later entered St. Joseph's University, graduating in 1922 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He then entered the medical school of Laval University, Quebec City, and graduated in 1927 with an M.D. He practised in Richibucto for a year and then went abroad for postgraduate study in Paris, Vienna, Germany and New York. He opened a practice in Moncton in 1931 and had resided in the city ever since. He was a member of L'Assomption Society and of the Moncton Curlers Association. He was widely known and esteemed by a wide circle of friends who will mourn his death. Surviving are his widow, two daughters, one son, three sisters and one brother.

Dr. William Rathburn Sutherland Groves died suddenly in Vancouver on May 6. He is survived by his widow.

Dr. E. A. E. Howard died on June 1 at the Toronto General Hospital. He was born at Hagersville, Ont. He was a graduate in medicine from the University of Toronto in 1906. He was a member of the Granite Club and various medical associations. Dr. Howard is survived by two sisters.

Dr. Armand Landry, aged 39, was drowned on May 12 in the Red River near St. Adolphe where he had been practising. The recent floods along the river with the need for inoculating the residents against typhoid had thrown a heavy strain on him. He received his B.A. degree in 1928 as a student in St. Boniface College, and in 1934 his M.D. degree from Laval University. He is survived by his mother and two sisters.

Dr. R. H. McCutcheon died on April 25 in Vancouver. He was 67. Surviving are three sons, two grandsons, a brother, and a sister.

Dr. Simon Joseph McNally, of Campbell's Bay, Que., died at his home there on May 8 at the age of 82. He was born on Calumet Island and had practised medicine in Campbell's Bay and district since 1895. He graduated in medicine from Laval University in 1893. For many years he was president of the Pontiac Conservative Association and although never elected had stood as candidate on three different occasions. In municipal politics he served more than 25 years as mayor or councillor and also served more than a quarter century on the school board. He is survived by his widow, one brother and several nieces and nephews.

Dr. Thomas R. Ponton died at Redlands, California, on April 2. He was in his 74th year. He was born in Manitoba and was graduated from the University of Manitoba, practising for some years at Portage la Prairie. During World War I, he served in the C.A.M.C. in England and in France. On his return he became first assistant to Dr. Malcolm MacEachern at the Vancouver General Hospital, replacing Dr. MacEachern's former assistant who had died during the influenza epidemic. Later he served with the American College of Surgeons. He did a great deal of consulting work both on this continent and in South America and, on many occasions, took over the administration of weak hospitals and built them up. Dr. Ponton was always deeply interested in nomenclature and developed the alphabetical nomenclature, frequently known as the Ponton system, and which was later replaced by the Standard Nomenclature of Diseases and Operations. In 1939 he published the well-known book *Medical Staff in the Hospital*. In later years, he was editor of *Hospital Management* and at the time of his death was carrying out his portion of the responsibility of publishing that magazine from his ranch home at Yucaipa in California.

Dr. J. S. Rivers, aged 79, died in Vancouver on April 21 following a lengthy illness. Born in Sarnia, Ont., he was a graduate of the University of Toronto medical college in 1896. He practised medicine in Ontario until 1902 when he came west and started a practice in Raymond, Alberta. He also was a member of the Masonic Order and of the I.O.O.F. Besides his widow, he leaves two sons.

Dr. Jordan W. Smith, a native of Selma, Hants County, died in Liverpool, N.S. on May 6 in his 84th year after a brief illness. He was well-known throughout the province, both as an outstanding physician and as a member of the Nova Scotia Legislature.

Previous to his medical career, Dr. Smith was a school teacher. He graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Md. in 1891 and from the New York Post Graduate School and Hospital in 1906, later practising in Baltimore before returning to his native province.

He is survived by one daughter and four sons.

Dr. Herbert Tatley died on May 16 at his home in Montreal after a lengthy illness. He was 80 years of age. He was one of the founders of the Grace Dart Hospital for tuberculosis and devoted most of his life to it.

In March, 1943, Dr. Tatley was honoured by the directors of the hospital at a dinner in celebration of his 50 years' connection with it. Born in England, Herbert Tatley came to Canada at the age of eight. He was educated at Bishop's College, and studied for his medical degree in Edinburgh University. After receiving it, he returned to Canada and served his internship at the Montreal General Hospital.

In his younger days, Dr. Tatley was a great athlete. He was a big game hunter and until a few years ago used to go north every fall to hunt moose. He was also an enthusiastic fisherman and a golfer. He is survived by his widow, two daughters and one son.

NEWS ITEMS

Alberta

The Aberhart Memorial Hospital (for tuberculosis) is to be built on the south-west section of the University of Alberta grounds. The ground work is under-way and this 250 bed hospital will be a fine addition to the now rapidly growing University of Alberta.

Drs. F. H. H. Mewburn and Graham Huckell attended the orthopaedic convention held at the Hotel Frontenac in Quebec City recently.

The Refresher Course arranged by the Medical Faculty of the University of Alberta was well attended this year and many fine cases and papers presented. Dr. Roy Huggard of Vancouver, Dr. Lennox Bell of Winnipeg and Dr. S. Banks of Chicago were the outside speakers.

The new wing and annex of the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton have been completed. These additions are a great asset to this city-owned institution.

The various medical and surgical reporting clubs, of which there are ten in Edmonton, are bringing their meetings to a close for the summer season; similar clubs in Calgary are doing likewise and will commence again in the fall. At these clubs whose membership varies from ten to fifteen the various medical journals are reviewed and discussed.

W. C. WHITESIDE

British Columbia

The disastrous flooding of the Fraser River during the last days of May, and still continuing, is presenting very serious problems to the public health authorities. The inhabitants of the areas affected, great farming lands and small towns, depend largely upon wells for drinking water, and use outdoor toilets. The great danger is of pollution, to a serious and lasting degree, of drinking water. Great numbers of cows are un milked, and the health authorities fear serious infection of these cattle. The milk situation may become critical at any time; but up to date is under control.

The isolation of Vancouver and the coast cities by rail has led to a very serious shortage of butter—in fact, at the time of writing, it is almost unobtainable.

The health authorities of Victoria have taken charge most effectively in this situation, and are providing emergency hospitals, sanitary inspection and control, and are busy day and night. A complete 25-bed hospital was sent from Victoria to Vancouver, to act as a nucleus for emergency hospital care.

The Annual Summer School of the Vancouver Medical Association is in full swing, and an excellent program has been provided. The speakers are all men of high calibre as lecturers and teachers, and the attendance is good, though undoubtedly the difficulties of transportation caused by the flood, will limit this to some degree.

The cities of North and West Vancouver are at present negotiating with each other, with a view to the formation of a North Shore Board of Health, and progress is being made in this direction. The ultimate union of this body with the Metropolitan Health Board of Vancouver and adjacent municipalities, is hoped for.

Two of the latest designs in oxygen tents have been presented to the Kelowna General Hospital by the Kelowna Lions Club. The gift is appreciated very greatly by the hospital, which expressed its thanks to the Lions Club at a brief formal ceremony, when the gift was made.

The Duncan Hospital has notified the Department of Indian Affairs that it will not accept Indian patients in future, except in emergency, unless the Department will pay the usual hospital rates. This the Department has so far refused to do. Since the Workmen's Compensation Board and the Blue Cross are both willing to pay the prevailing rates, it is difficult to see why the D.I.A. should have any special preference. Hon. G. S. Pearson, B.C. Minister of Health, has notified the hospital that it is justified in its action.

The 30th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Public Health Association was held in Vancouver May 13 to 20, and was an outstanding success—under the chairmanship of Dr. G. F. Amyot, Deputy Minister of Health of B.C.

Dr. James M. Hershey, Assistant Provincial Health officer, has been named commissioner in charge of administering the new compulsory hospital insurance plan of B.C.

J. H. MACDERMOT

Manitoba

Winnipeg has welcomed in May distinguished visitors from distant lands. On May 6 Dr. Cotter Harvey, Honorary Medical Officers to Royal Prince Alfred and Royal North Shore Hospitals, Sidney, N.S.W., inspected the Central Tuberculosis Clinic and was present at a meeting of the Medical Advisory Committee. On May 21, Dr. Harley Williams, Secretary-General of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, London, Eng., sat in at a meeting of the Sanatorium Board and addressed the members on the world situation with regard to tuberculosis. Sir William Fletcher Shaw, LL.D., first Secretary of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, was the guest of honour at a dinner in Manitoba Club on May 25. The dinner was arranged and presided over by Professor F. G. McGuinness and Dean A. T. Mathers, and twenty of the obstetricians and gynaecologists of the city were present.

A fund is being raised to establish in the Winnipeg General Hospital a memorial to the late Dr. George F. Stephens, who from 1919 to 1940 was superintendent of that institution. Subscriptions should be sent to Dr. Harry Coppinger, Superintendent of the Winnipeg General Hospital.

A vigorous campaign is being waged to raise fund of \$1,500,000 for the erection and equipment of a new Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. The present building on Aberdeen Ave. is quite inadequate. The new hospital will be built on Notre Dame Ave. in the Manitoba Medical Centre near the Winnipeg General Hospital and the Medical College.